



U.S. Department of Justice

United States Attorney

Eastern District of Pennsylvania

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June 12, 2008

NEWS RELEASE

United States Attorney Patrick L. Meehan today announced the filing of an Indictment¹, against NICANDRO GARCIA and ANTONIA VARGAS, charging GARCIA and VARGAS with one count of conspiracy to counterfeit and sell alien registration cards and social security cards, 27 counts of counterfeiting alien registration cards, 27 counts of counterfeiting social security cards, 27 counts of transferring false identification documents, one count of possession with intent to use or transfer five or more false identification documents, and one count of possession of document-making implements with the intent that the implements be used in production of a false identification document.

According to the indictment, between March 6, 2007 and March 20, 2008, GARCIA manufactured and sold 27 sets of fraudulent alien registration cards and social security cards to a cooperating witness and VARGAS assisted GARCIA by meeting with the cooperating witness on one occasion to get the names and dates of births to be used on these false documents and then delivering the completed false documents. In addition, the indictment alleges that GARCIA and VARGAS had, in their home, numerous blank and completed fraudulent alien registration cards and social security cards, as well as the equipment and materials to make these false identification documents.

INFORMATION REGARDING THE DEFENDANTS

NAME	ADDRESS	AGE OR DATE OF BIRTH
Nicandro Garcia	Norristown, PA	30
Antonia Vargas	Norristown, PA	37

If convicted, defendant GARCIA faces a maximum sentence of 980 years imprisonment, a \$21,000,000 fine and an \$8,400 special assessment. If convicted, defendant VARGAS faces

¹An Indictment is an accusation. A defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.

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a maximum sentence of 285 years imprisonment, a \$5,750,000 fine and a \$2,300 special assessment.

The case was investigated by the United States Department of Homeland Security, Immigration & Customs Enforcement, and is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney K.T. Newton.

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